

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



October 18, 2002

REFUGEE COORDINATOR LETTER NO. 02-26

TO: COUNTY REFUGEE COORDINATORS

This letter is to inform counties that the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) has approved the Refugee Programs Branch (RPB) request to waive the five-year 60-month limit on the use of Refugee Employment Social Services (RESS) formula funding. The approval is for the Federal Fiscal Year 2003, from October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2003.

This waiver will allow refugees who have lost employment due to the economic downturn or who are about to lose eligibility for Supplemental Security Income or the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids program to access ORR-funded social services.

A requirement of the waiver states that counties must provide a narrative description of the number of refugees they served and the specific type of services they provided in each Quarterly Performance Report for the duration of the waiver. The ORR is interested in knowing specifically that there is a need and how this waiver has helped serve the refugee population. In addition, please report the numbers of over 60-month clients served due to the waiver on the RS 50 (Services Participation and Outcomes Report) for RESS activities. This information is important for the current year, but will also be useful in the future if we consider requesting ORR to grant California additional waivers. Please submit your narrative descriptions and RS 50's no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> day following the end of the quarter to Mr. Steve Saucedo, Operations and Performance Bureau in the RPB.

Enclosed, please find a copy of the approval letter from ORR for your review and record.

If you have any questions regarding this waiver, please contact Ms. Betts Smith, Manager of the Operations and Performance Bureau at (916) 654-0495.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by Betts Smith for Thuan Nguyen  
On October 18, 2002

THUAN NGUYEN, Chief  
Refugee Programs Branch

Enclosure

c: Nguyen Kimchi, Director, Division of Refugee Assistance  
Carl Rubenstein, Program Consultant